

House Republican Press Release

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Rep. Urban Awarded Fellowship for Harvard University Program



*Community Leaders Recognized For Commitment
To Affordable Housing Issues*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Fannie Mae Foundation, today, announced State Rep. Diana Urban, R-North Stonington, was one of 35 officials chosen nationwide to participate in the first of two summer 2005 sessions of the Fannie Mae Foundation Fellows at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government (Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship Program). The Fellows are recognized for their commitment to and accomplishments in the field of affordable housing.

The program curriculum focuses on political management, policy analysis, performance management, negotiations, and strategic management. Harvard University's Kennedy School selects the participants, who represent all areas of public-sector management, public works, health, public safety, housing, budget, and administration.

The Fellows will attend an intensive, three-week course in June designed to enhance leadership skills, develop new management techniques, and cultivate relationships among public sector colleagues. A second session will be held in July.

"I have always emphasized that good public policy is immensely important to me," said Rep. Urban. "The chance to study policy at the Kennedy School is an incredible opportunity, and I intend to make the most of my time there. I look forward to putting into practice what I learn during the program to make our district and state a better place for children and families."

"The Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship Program is a natural extension of our ongoing work with emerging and established leaders on the front lines of affordable housing," said Stacey D. Stewart, president and CEO, the Fannie Mae Foundation. "Our goal for the program is to give such leaders an unprecedented opportunity to expand their knowledge and effectiveness so they can better serve their communities as the next generation of leaders in the affordable housing field."

In 1996, the Fannie Mae Foundation and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University established the Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship Program to

enhance the management and decision-making skills of senior public and nonprofit officials dedicated to improving affordable housing opportunities in communities across the country. This year's selection process was particularly competitive because there was an increased number of high-level applicants, with nearly 100 applicants for the available fellowships.

The Fannie Mae Foundation creates affordable homeownership and housing opportunities through innovative partnerships and initiatives that build healthy, vibrant communities across the United States. The Foundation is specially committed to improving the quality of life for the people of its hometown, Washington, D.C., and to enhancing the livability of the city's neighborhoods. The Foundation, a private nonprofit organization supported solely by Fannie Mae, has regional offices in Dallas, Pasadena, Calif., and Philadelphia.

STYLE USAGE: The Fannie Mae Foundation is a separate legal entity from Fannie Mae (a NYSE-listed company). In order to facilitate clarity and avoid confusion, news organizations are asked to refer to the Foundation exclusively as "the Fannie Mae Foundation" or "the Foundation," but not as "Fannie Mae."